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# **U.S. Department of Labor Hispanic Worker Initiative Cuban American National Council ALPHA Program**

Miami-Dade County and Orlando, Florida



**Grant Amount:        \$1,485,000**

## **Program Description:**

The U.S. Department of Labor is awarding a grant of \$1,485,000 to the Cuban American National Council, Inc. for its Academic, Leadership, and Career Prep for Hispanic American Youth (ALPHA) Program. This program assists Hispanic youth seeking to overcome educational and employment barriers.

The Cuban American National Council will operate three Hispanic community centers in Florida – two in Miami-Dade County and one in Orlando – that will serve 300 at-risk Hispanic youth in grades 9-12 and out-of-school Hispanic youth ages 16-21.

- In Miami-Dade County, it will serve students in grades 9-12 at Little Havana and Hialeah High School Institute and out-of-school youth at the Youth Center located in South Miami-Dade.
- In Greater Orlando, it will serve students in grades 9-12 in Orange and Osceola public high schools. CNC will also serve out-of-school youth through Workforce Florida's Institute for the Development of Engaged Adolescents (IDEA).

Funds from the U.S. Department of Labor will focus on helping youth continue their education and increase high school graduation rates, college entrance rates, post-secondary alternatives, and attainment of vocational certificates. The ALPHA Program will also help prepare students for careers in health care (nursing), hospitality, recreation, wholesale trade/durable goods, communications, information technology and telecommunications.

The grant will allow the Cuban American National Council to build upon its partner networks in South and Central Florida. Business partners include the Miami and the Orlando regional chambers of commerce. Secondary and post-secondary education partners include Miami-Dade Community College; Florida International University; Valencia Community College; Central Florida University; and the Miami-Dade, Orange County, and Osceola County Public Schools. CNC also partners with Workforce Central Florida, which funds the IDEA program.

